



CALIFORNIA ARTS COUNCIL

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GOVERNOR

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DIRECTOR

News Release

California Arts Council is principal sponsor for American Film Institute's inaugural "California Digital Workshop" December 1-8, 1997

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LOS ANGELES: The California Arts Council is serving as principal sponsor for the **American Film Institute's** inaugural **California Digital Workshop** to be held December 1-8, 1997 on the AFI campus located at 2021 North Western Avenue, Los Angeles. This Workshop will initiate the production of original digital media art for the Web by an extraordinary group of 17 visual artists who were selected by a distinguished jury. In addition to the curriculum created for these artists, the Workshop will convene a series of five free public events called "**Little Screen, Big Picture.**" These events will feature digital arts pioneers and visionaries who will illuminate critical cultural issues and exemplary art work for workshop artists and members of the new media community.

There is **no charge** for participation in the five public events. However, you must call to make a reservation for each event you plan to attend. Space is limited so reservations will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis. **The Reservation Line is: 213-856-7691.**

States **Barbara Pieper**, Director of the CAC, "It is the California Arts Council's goal that with this new Workshop, a living laboratory is created for the engagement of artists, public and private sector arts, and entertainment and technology leaders to help contribute to the evolving history of new digital art forms for future generations."

Michael Nash, the Workshop's Creative Director, states, "The digital revolution offers the potential to reinvent the relationships between creative vision, artistic realization, the distribution of intellectual property, and the politics of culture. The promise of this unfolding transition depends as much on the roles assumed by artists as it does upon the work of technologists."

This first-ever **California Digital Workshop** is part of the first year's events of a larger, three-year, multi-million dollar relationship recently announced between **AFI** and the **Intel Corporation** that includes Intel's support of the AFI Los Angeles Film Festival, specifically to allow AFI to create interactive sessions and exhibitions during the major film event; creation of a new "Interactive Star" award to be given for creative achievement in the emerging interactive digital media field; creation of an AFI-Intel interactive production workshop, for which top creative talent from entertainment and media arts will be given a fellowship to explore their ideas of new online and interactive media; and the expansion of AFI Online.

Additional organizations sponsoring the **California Digital Workshop** include administrative support provided by the **San Francisco Foundation** and production support provided by **Digital Planet**.

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The California Digital Workshop

December 1-8, 1997

Creative Director: Michael Nash

Little Screen, Big Picture: Free Evening Events and Presentations

Monday, December 1: Opening night reception and presentations by **Russell Brown**, Senior Art Director, Adobe Systems; and **David Siegel**, web designer extraordinaire, Verso Studios. Reception: 7 p.m.; Presentation: 8-10 p.m.

Thursday, December 4: New Constructs of Community: a symposium on the impact of on-line community constructs on the development of unique forms of Internet culture, moderated by **Michael Nash** and featuring: **Jim Bumgardner**, The Palace; **David Bohnett**, GeoCities; and **David Talbot**, Salon. Presentation: 8-10 p.m.

Saturday, December 6: Web Art #1: **Benjamin Britton**, 30th anniversary moon landing project; and **David Blair**, Waxweb. Presentation: 8-10 p.m.

Sunday, December 7: Web Art #2: **Allee Willis**, Willisville; and **Christine Panushka & Jimmy Yaffe**, Absolut Panushka. Presentation: 8-10 p.m.

Monday, December 8: Closing Night Reception & viewing of artists' new works-in-progress. Reception & viewing: 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Reservation line: 213-856-7691

Celebrating its milestone 30th anniversary this year, the **American Film Institute** is dedicated to advancing and preserving the art of film, television and other forms of the moving image. AFI's programs promote innovation and excellence through teaching, presenting, preserving and redefining this art form. For more information about AFI, visit their Web site: <http://www.afionline.org>. For press inquiries, contact Seth Oster, Communications Director, at 213-856-7667, soster@afionline.org

The **California Arts Council**, a state agency established in 1976, promotes artistic awareness and participation in California. The California Arts Council's mission is to promote the arts and serve the people of California. The Arts Council provides technical assistance and grants to artists and nonprofit organizations. Applications are reviewed and rated at public meetings by outside professional peer panels and receive final approval from the appointed 11-member Council. Arts Council members include: Thomas Hall, Chair; James L. Loper, Vice Chair; Dea Spanos Berberian; Edward C. Cazier, Jr.; Iris R. Dart; Doris Fisher; Barbara George; Hugh Hewitt; Janet Karatz; David C. Lizarraga; and A.C. Lyles.

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